

Chapter 17 - Manifest Destiny and Its Legacy (1841-1848)

The Accession of "Tyler Too"

At the beginning of Henry Harrison's presidency, Daniel Webster (secretary of state) and Henry Clay (leader of Whigs in the Senate) expected to control the Presidency because Harrison was not a very commanding figure. Only 4 weeks into Harrison's presidency, though, Harrison died. This disrupted the plans of Webster and Clay.

John Tyler: Vice President to Henry Harrison; successor as President following Harrison's death; "Tyler too"; a Democrat at heart and contradicted many of the Whig Party's ideas.

John Tyler: A President without a Party

The Whigs introduced many policy changes when the party won the presidency with Harrison (and then Tyler). The first change was **financial reform**. The independent treasury system was ended. A bill for a "**Fiscal Bank**," which would establish a new Bank of the United States went through Congress, but President Tyler vetoed it. The Whigs presented a "**Fiscal Corporation**," but Tyler again vetoed it.

President Tyler was rejected by his former Whig Party.

Tyler reluctantly signed the **Tariff of 1842** because he recognized the government's need for revenue.

A War of Words with Britain

The 19th Century was marked by periods of public disdain for Britain. This sparked the "**Third War with England**." This war was only fought with editorials in papers.

In **1837**, there was a small rebellion in Canada. Although it was supported by many Americans, the rebellion failed because it was backed by few Canadians.

In **1837**, the American ship, the **Caroline**, was carrying military supplies to the rebelling Canadians when it was sunk by a British ship. Washington officials made ineffective protests against the attack.

In **1841**, British officials in the Bahamas offered asylum to 130 Virginia slaves who had rebelled and captured the American ship **Creole**.

Manipulating the Maine Maps

In **1842**, the British wanted to build a road linking the seaport of Halifax to Quebec. The proposed road ran through disputed territory in northern Maine, though. Skirmishes between locals broke out and these skirmishes were referred to as the **Aroostook War**.

To prevent a wider-reaching war, the London Foreign Office sent Lord Ashburton to Washington to settle the dispute. He and Daniel Webster negotiated and agreed to a new boundary for Maine that put the disputed road in Canadian territory.

The Lone Star of Texas Shines Alone

In the 8 years following 1836, Mexico considered Texas one of their provinces that was in revolt. Mexico refused to recognize Texas's independence. Mexico threatened war if America protected Texas.

Texas made treaties with France, Holland, and Belgium. Britain was interested in seeing an independent Texas because they hoped it could be used to fragment and weaken America. The British were also interested in having Texas as a trading partner who was more friendly than the Americans.

The Belated Texas Nuptials

Texas was a leading issue in the presidential campaign of **1844**. The Democrats were pro-expansion and supported the annexation of Texas, while the Whigs were against it.

The Democrats (James Polk) won the election of 1844, and lame duck (outgoing) President Tyler took that as a sign to acquire Texas before he left the presidency. He signed a resolution in **1845** that invited Texas to become the **28th** state in America.

Oregon Fever Populates Oregon

Four nations claimed parts of the **Oregon Country** at one time: **Spain, Russia, Britain**, and the **United States**. Spain gave up its American territory with the Florida Treaty of 1819, and Russia gave up its land with the treaties of 1824 and 1825.

Britain controlled the Oregon territory north of the Columbia River, while American controlled the southern territory. Britain had a smaller population in the Oregon territory, but it did not want to give up its claims. The disputed territory in the Oregon Country became an issue in the election of **1844**.

A Mandate (?) for Manifest Destiny

For the election of 1844, the Whigs chose Henry Clay, and the Democrats chose James K. Polk. Polk was the Speaker of the House of Representatives for four years and governor of Tennessee for two terms. He beat Henry Clay to win the **election of 1844**. He was known as "Young Hickory", he said he would protect Texas, and he avoided the issue of slavery.

In the 1840s and 1850s, the idea of **Manifest Destiny** spread across America. Many Americans felt that God had destined them to spread their democratic institutions over the entire continent and over South America as well. Democrats strongly supported the idea of Manifest Destiny.

Polk the Purposeful

Polk had four main goals for his presidency: 1) A lower tariff; 2) Restore the independent treasury, which the Whigs dropped in 1841 because the Whigs won the presidency; 3-4) The acquisition of California and the settlement of the Oregon Country dispute without violence.

Robert J. Walker: Secretary of Treasury to James Polk; devised the **Walker Tariff of 1846**, a tariff-for-revenue bill that reduced the tariff from 32% to 25%.

The independent treasury was restored in 1846.

Britain presented Polk with the Oregon Country up to the 49th parallel. This offer was approved without a shot fired.

Misunderstandings with Mexico

The population of California in **1845** consisted of Spanish-Mexicans and Indians.

Polk wanted to buy California (**The Bear Flag Republic**) from Mexico but relations with Mexico were poor due to the annexation of Texas.

John Slidell: sent by Polk to Mexico City in 1845 to buy California for \$25 million; the offer was rejected.

American Blood on American (?) Soil

On **January 13, 1846**, Polk ordered 4,000 men under General Zachary Taylor to the Rio Grande. On **May 9, 1846**, Polk asked Congress to **declare war on Mexico** on the basis of **unpaid claims** and **Slidell's rejection** of the purchasing of California. Prior to this request, Mexican troops had already attacked American troops. War was subsequently declared. Many people in Congress accused Polk of provoking war. Mexico was not willing to sell California and war seemed to be the only way that America could get California.

The Mastering of Mexico

Polk wanted California, not war. He hoped that America could pull out of the war with California.

American generals in Mexican-American War:

- General Stephen W. Kearny: led 1,700 troops to Santa Fe.
- General Zachary Taylor: won many victories including a victory over a large Mexican force at Buena Vista; future President
- General Winfield Scott: succeeded in battling his way to Mexico City by September 1847; became President Abraham Lincoln's first choice to lead the Union army in the Civil War.

Fighting Mexico for Peace

Nicholas P. Trist: chief clerk of the State Department; signed the **Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo** on **February 2, 1848**.

The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ceded Texas and the area that included California to America for \$15 million. This area was about half of Mexico. The antislavery Whigs in Congress ("Conscience Whigs") opposed the treaty because they had originally opposed the war. Expansionists also opposed the treaty because they wanted all of Mexico, not just part of it.

Profit and Loss in Mexico

The Mexican War provided field experience for the officers who became generals in the Civil War, including Captain Robert E. Lee and Lieutenant Ulysses S. Grant.

David Wilmot: proposed an amendment that stated that the territory from Mexico should remain slave-free. This **Wilmot Proviso** never passed the Senate because the Southern members did not want to remove the possibility of future slave states from this territory.

Chapter 18 - Renewing the Sectional Struggle (1848-1854)

The Popular Sovereignty Panacea

Popular Sovereignty: the idea that the people of a territory should determine their territory's status of slavery. It was popular with politicians because it was a compromise between the abolitionists and the slaveholders.

At the Democratic National Convention at Baltimore, the **Democrats** chose General Lewis Cass, a veteran of the war of 1812, as their candidate for presidency. Cass was not against slavery; he supported popular sovereignty.

Political Triumphs for General Taylor

The **Whigs**, who met in Philadelphia, chose Zachary Taylor as their candidate for presidency. Taylor did not have an official stance on slavery, but he did own many slaves. Henry Clay had not been chosen because he had too many enemies.

The **Free Soil Party** was created by antislavery men of the North who didn't trust Cass or Taylor. They supported federal aid for internal improvements. They argued that with slavery, wage labor would wither away and with it, the chance for the American worker to own property. Zachary Taylor won the **election of 1848** (sworn into office in 1849).

"Californy Gold"

In **1848**, gold was discovered in California. The influx of people associated with the **California gold rush** brought violence and disease that overwhelmed the small Californian government. Needing protection, the Californians bypassed the territorial stage of a state, drafted their own **Constitution (excluding slavery)** in **1849**, and applied to Congress for admission into the Union.

The southerners objected to California's admission as a free state because it would be upset the balance of free and slave states in the Senate.

Sectional Balance and the Underground Railroad

Harriet Tubman: an illiterate runaway slave who helped rescue hundreds of slaves through the **Underground Railroad**, a network of anti-slavery homes that passed slaves from the slave states to Canada.

By **1850**, southerners started to demand stricter **fugitive-slave laws**. (The old fugitive-slave law passed by Congress in 1793 was very weak.)

Twilight of the Senatorial Giants

The **congressional debate of 1850** was called to address the admission of California to the Union and threats of secession by southerners. Known as the "**immortal trio**," Henry Clay, John Calhoun, and Daniel Webster spoke at the debate.

Henry Clay, the "**Great Compromiser**," proposed a series of compromises. He suggested that the North enact a stricter fugitive-slave law.

John Calhoun, the "**Great Nullifier**," proposed to return runaway slaves, give the South its rights as a minority, and restore the political balance. His ultimate plan was for America to have two presidents, one from the South and one from the North, each yielding one veto.

Daniel Webster called for people to make **concessions** and support Clay's proposals, for the sake of maintaining the Union (**Seventh of March Speech**). He was against slavery, but he viewed the collapse of the Union as worse.

Deadlock and Danger on Capital Hill

William H. Seward: senator of New York; opposed slavery and because of this, he opposed Clay's proposals; argued that God's moral law was higher than the Constitution.

President Zachary Taylor opposed slavery and seemed ready to veto any compromise between the North and South that went through Congress.

Breaking the Congressional Logjam

In **1850**, President Taylor died suddenly and Vice President Millard Fillmore took the presidency. President Fillmore signed a series of compromises contained within the **Compromise of 1850**. In regards to slavery, California was admitted as a free state, but the territories of New Mexico and Utah were open to popular sovereignty. Additionally, slave trade was outlawed in the District of Columbia, but a stricter fugitive-slave law was enacted.

During this time period, a **second Era of Good Feelings** came about. Talk of secession subsided and the Northerners and Southerners were determined that the compromises would end the issue of slavery.

Balancing the Compromise Scales

Because the Compromise of 1850 allowed California and the New Mexico/Utah territories to be free, the **Senate became unbalanced** in favor of the North.

The **Fugitive-Slave Law of 1850**, the Bloodhound Bill, said that fleeing slaves could not testify on their own behalf and they were denied a jury trial. Northerners who aided slaves trying to escape were subject to fines and jail time. This law was the South's only real gain from the compromise.

Some historians argue that the Compromise of 1850 strengthened the Northerner's desire to keep the Union together.

Defeat and Doom for the Whigs

In the Democratic Convention of 1852 in Baltimore, the **Democrats** chose Franklin Pierce as their candidate for president. He supported the Compromise of 1850 and the Fugitive Slave Law.

Meeting in Baltimore, the **Whigs** chose Winfield Scott as their candidate for president. He also supported the Compromise of 1850 and the Fugitive Slave Law.

The votes for the Whig party were split between **Northern Whigs**, who hated the party's platform (support of Fugitive Slave Law) but accepted the candidate, and **Southern Whigs**, who supported the platform but not the candidate (they doubted his support of the Fugitive Slave Law). Franklin Pierce won the **election of 1852**. The election of 1852 marked the end of the Whig party. It died on the issue of the Fugitive Slave Law.

Expansionist Stirrings South of the Border

The victory of the Mexican War stimulated the spirit of Manifest Destiny.

Americans started to take an interest in Central America. A canal route between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans that ran through Central America would be vitally important to America.

The Americans and New Granada agreed to a treaty in 1848 that guaranteed America's right to use the isthmus in return for America's pledge to allow any other country to also use the isthmus. The **Clayton-Bulwer Treaty** of 1850 said that neither America nor Britain would fortify or secure exclusive control over any isthmian waterway.

Because the Compromise of 1850 prohibited slavery in the land gained in the Mexican War, southern Americans sought new territory to expand slavery. These people were known as "slavocrats." One slavocrat, William Walker, installed himself as the President of **Nicaragua** in July **1856**. He legalized slavery, but was overthrown by surrounding Central American countries and killed in **1860**.

Southerners wanted to annex **Cuba** and turn it into a set of slave states. This would restore the balance in the Senate.

President Polk offered \$100 million to buy Cuba from **Spain**, but Spain refused. In **1850-1851**, two expeditions of Southern men descended upon Cuba, with the hopes of taking it over. Both expeditions were defeated.

Spanish officials in Cuba seized an American ship, the **Black Warrior**, in **1854**. This accelerated President Pierce's interest in taking Cuba from Spain, either by force or by purchasing it.

The secretary of state instructed the American ministers in Spain, England, and France to prepare confidential recommendations for the acquisition of Cuba. This document was known as the **Ostend Manifesto**. It stated that if Spain didn't allow America to buy Cuba for \$120 million, then America would attack Cuba on grounds that Spain's continued ownership of Cuba endangered American interests. The document eventually leaked out and the Northerners foiled the President's slave-driven plan.

The Allure of Asia

Opium War: fought between Britain and China over the rights of British traders to trade opium in China; Britain won in 1842, gaining control of Hong Kong.

Treaty of Wanghia: the first diplomatic agreement between America and China; signed in 1844; expanded trade between the two countries.

Treaty of Kanagawa: opened up a small amount of trade between America and Japan; signed in 1854; it was Japan's first real interaction with the Western world in over 200 years.

Pacific Railroad Promoters and the Gadsden Purchase

After California and Oregon were acquired, the **transcontinental railroad** was proposed. The open question was: Where to put the railroad's terminus? In the North or the South?

Secretary of War Jefferson Davis had James Gadsden buy an area of Mexico from Santa Anna through which the railroad would pass.

Gadsden negotiated a treaty in 1853 and the **Gadsden Purchase area** was ceded to the United States for \$10 million.

Southerners argued that the railroad should run through Texas and the New Mexico territory because Texas was already a state and the New Mexico territory was a formally organized territory (it had federal troops to provide protection from Indians). The proposed Northern railroad route ran through the Nebraska territory, which was not protected by troops. The Northerners proposed plans for organizing this territory.

Douglas's Kansas-Nebraska Scheme

Stephen A. Douglas: senator who tried to break the North-South deadlock over westward expansion; proposed the **Territory of Nebraska** to be sliced into two territories, **Kansas** and **Nebraska**. Their status on slavery would be decided by popular sovereignty. Kansas would be presumed to be a slave state, while Nebraska would be a free state.

This **Kansas-Nebraska Act** conflicted with the Missouri Compromise of 1820, which forbade slavery in the proposed Nebraska Territory. Douglas was forced to propose the repealing of the Missouri Compromise. President Pierce fully supported the Kansas-Nebraska Bill.

Congress Legislates a Civil War

The Kansas-Nebraska Act **wrecked two compromises**: the Compromise of 1820 was repealed by the act; the Compromise of 1850 was henceforth rejected by Northerners.

The blunder of the Kansas-Nebraska Act hurt the **Democratic Party**.

The **Republican Party** was formed in the Mid-West and it was morally against slavery. The party included Whigs, Democrats, Free-Soilers, Know-Nothings, and other foes of the Kansas-Nebraska Act. The Southerners hated the Republican Party.

Chapter 19 - Drifting Toward Disunion (1854-1861)

The Kansas Territory erupted in violence in 1855 between the proslavery and antislavery factions. In 1857, the Supreme Court's *Dred Scott* decision permitted slavery in all Western territories, invalidating the Missouri Compromise of 1820.

Stowe and Helper: Literary Incendiaries

Harriet Beecher Stowe, who was white, published *Uncle Tom's Cabin* in 1852 as an attempt to show the North the horrors of slavery. The novel was published abroad, including France and Britain. It helped to start the Civil War and for the North to win it.

Hinton R. Helper, a non-aristocrat from North Carolina, wrote *The Impending Crisis of the South* in 1857. He hated both blacks and slavery, and he attempted to use statistics to prove that the non-slaveholding whites were the ones who suffered the most from slavery.

The North-South Contest for Kansas

Most of the people who came to Kansas were just westward-moving pioneers. The **New England Emigrant Aid Company**, a group of abolitionists, paid some people to move to Kansas to make it a free state. (The Kansas and Nebraska territories had popular sovereignty in choosing slavery, according to the Kansas-Nebraska Act. Nebraska was so far north that its future as a free state was never in question.)

In 1855 when Kansas was having its legislature elections, many pro-slavery people came from Missouri to vote. They sought to elect pro-slavery officials. The slavery supporters won the elections and set up their own government at **Shawnee Mission**. The abolitionists then set up their own government in **Topeka**, giving the Kansas territory two governments.

In 1856, the civil war in Kansas started when a group of pro-slavery riders burned down part of the abolitionist's town of Lawrence.

Kansas in Convulsion

John Brown: fanatical abolitionist who, in May of 1856, hacked to death 5 presumed pro-slavery men at **Pottawatomie Creek** in response to the pro-slavery events in Lawrence.

Civil war flared up in Kansas in 1856, and continued until it merged with the nation's Civil War of 1861-1865.

In 1857, Kansas had enough people to apply for statehood. Its citizens were going to vote again on whether or not to have slavery in the **state** of Kansas. To keep the abolitionists from creating a free state, the pro-slavery politicians created the **Lecompton Constitution**. The document stated that the people were not allowed to vote for or against the constitution as a whole, rather, they could vote on whether the constitution would be "**with slavery**" or "**without slavery**." If slavery was voted against, then one of the provisions in the constitution would protect those who already owned slaves in Kansas. Many abolitionists boycotted voting, so the constitution was approved to include slavery.

James Buchanan, a Democrat, succeeded Pierce as the President of the United States in the election of 1856. He had a strong southern influence and approved of the Lecompton Constitution. Senator Stephen Douglas was strongly opposed to the document and he campaigned against it. Eventually, a **compromise** was reached that enabled the people of Kansas to vote on the Lecompton Constitution, itself. It was revoked by the abolitionists voters, but Kansas ended up remaining a territory until 1861, when the southern states seceded from the Union.

President Buchanan **divided** the powerful **Democratic Party** by enraging some Democrats of the North. He divided the only remaining **national** party and with it, the Union.

"Bully" Brooks and His Bludgeon

In 1856, abolitionist Senator Charles Sumner of Massachusetts gave a provoking speech condemning pro-slavery men. During this speech, Sumner also personally insulted Senator Andrew Butler of South Carolina. Two days later on **May 22, 1856**, Butler's nephew, Preston Brooks, **beat** Sumner with a cane to unconsciousness.

The speech made by Sumner was applauded in the North, angering the South.

The clash between Sumner and Butler showed how violent and impassioned the Northerners and Southerners were for their cause.

"Old Buck" Versus "The Pathfinder"

Meeting in Cincinnati, the **Democrats** chose James Buchanan as their presidential candidate to run in the **election of 1856** because he wasn't involved with the divisive Kansas-Nebraska Act. The Democratic platform campaigned for popular sovereignty.

Meeting in Philadelphia, the **Republicans** chose Captain John C. Fremont because he was also not influenced by the Kansas-Nebraska Act. The Republican platform campaigned against the extension of slavery.

The **American Party**, also called the **Know-Nothing Party**, was formed by Protestants who were alarmed by the increasing number of immigrants coming from Ireland and Germany. They chose former president Millard Fillmore as their candidate for the election of 1856.

The Electoral Fruits of 1856

James Buchanan won the **election of 1856**.

It was a good thing that the Republican Party did not win the election because some southerners said that if a Republican had won, then they would secede.

This election was a small victory for the Republican Party because the party was just 2 years old, yet it put up a fight for the Democrats.

The Dred Scott Bombshell

Dred Scott, a slave who had lived with his master for 5 years in Illinois and the Wisconsin Territory, sued for his freedom on the basis of his long residence on free soil. In ***Dred Scott vs. Stanford***, the Supreme Court first ruled that because Scott was a black slave and not a citizen, he could not sue in Federal courts. The Court also ruled that because a slave was private property, he could be taken into any territory and legally held there in slavery. The **Fifth Amendment** forbade Congress from depriving people of their property without the due process of law. The Court went further and stated that the **Missouri Compromise of 1820 was unconstitutional** and that Congress had no power to ban slavery from the territories, no matter what the territorial legislatures themselves wanted.

This victory delighted Southerners, while it infuriated Northerners and supporters of popular sovereignty.

The Financial Crash of 1857

The **panic of 1857** was caused by over-speculation in the West and currency inflation due to the inrush of Californian gold. The North was the hardest hit, while the South continued to flourish with its cotton.

Northerners came up with the idea of the government giving **160-acre plots of farming land** to pioneers for **free**. Two groups opposed the idea: Eastern industrialists feared that the free land would drain its supply of workers, and the South feared that the West would fill up with free-soilers who would form anti-slavery states, unbalancing the Senate even more. Congress passed a **homestead act** in **1860**, making public lands available at \$0.25/acre, but it was vetoed by President Buchanan.

The **Tariff of 1857** lowered import taxes to about 20%. The North blamed it for causing the panic, because they felt they needed higher duties for more protection. This gave the Republicans two economic issues for the election of 1860: protection for the unprotected and farms for the farmless.

An Illinois Rail-Splitter Emerges

In Illinois's senatorial election of 1858, the Republicans chose Abraham Lincoln to run against Democrat Stephen Douglas. Lincoln served in the Illinois legislature as a Whig politician and he served one term in Congress.

The Great Debate: Lincoln versus Douglas

Lincoln challenged Douglas to a series of seven **debates** that were arranged from August to October **1858** (**Lincoln-Douglas debates**).

The most famous debate happened in Freeport, Illinois. Lincoln asked Douglas, "What if the people of a territory should vote down slavery?" The Supreme Court in the Dred Scott decision had said that the people could not do this. Douglas's reply to him became known as the "**Freeport Doctrine**." Douglas argued that no matter how the Supreme Court ruled, slavery would stay down if the people voted it down. Laws to protect slavery would have to be voted on by the territorial legislatures.

Douglas won the senatorial election, but Lincoln won the popular vote.

John Brown: Murderer or Martyr?

Abolitionist John Brown developed a plan to secretly invade the South, call upon the slaves to rise, give the slaves weapons, and establish a black free state.

In **October 1859**, he seized the **federal arsenal at Harpers Ferry**. Because many of his supporters failed to show up, he was caught and sent to death by hanging. When Brown died, he lived on as a martyr to the abolitionist cause.

The Disruption of the Democrats

For the **election of 1860**, the **Democrats** met in **Charleston**, South Carolina to choose their candidate. The northern part of the party wanted to nominate Stephen Douglas, but the southern "**fire-eaters**" saw him as a traitor for his unpopular opposition to the **Lecompton Constitution** and his unpopular **Freeport Doctrine** reply. After the delegates from most of the cotton states walked out, the Democrats met again in **Baltimore** to elect a candidate. This time, Douglas was elected, despite the fact that the southerners again walked out.

The **southern Democrats** met in **Baltimore** to choose their own Democratic presidential candidate. They chose vice-president John C. Breckenridge. The platform favored the extension of slavery into the territories and the annexation of slave-populated Cuba.

The **Constitutional Union Party** was formed by former Whigs and Know-Nothings. They nominated John Bell as their presidential candidate.

A Rail-Splitter Splits the Union

The Republican Party met in Chicago and nominated Abraham Lincoln as their presidential candidate.

The Republican platform **appealed to nearly every part of the nation**. For the free-soilers, the Republicans supported the non-extension of slavery. For the northern manufacturers, they supported a protective tariff. For the immigrants, they supported no abridgement of rights. For the Northwest, they supported a Pacific railroad. For the West, they supported internal improvements at federal expense. For the farmers, they supported free homesteads (plots of land) from the public domain.

The Southerners said that if Abraham Lincoln was elected as President, the Union would split.

The Electoral Upheaval of 1860

Abraham Lincoln won the **election of 1860**, but he did not win with the **popular vote**. 60% of the nation voted for another candidate. 10 southern states didn't even allow Lincoln to appear on the ballot.

South Carolina was happy at the outcome of the election because it now had a reason to secede.

Even though the Republicans won the presidential election, they did **not control** the House of Representatives, the Senate, or the Supreme Court.

The Secessionist Exodus

In **December 1860**, South Carolina's legislature met in Charleston and voted unanimously to **secede**. 6 other states joined South Carolina: **Alabama, Mississippi, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, and Texas**.

The 7 seceders met at Montgomery, Alabama in **February 1861** and created a government known as the **Confederate States of America**. The states chose Jefferson Davis, a recent member of the U.S. Senate from Mississippi, as President.

During this time of secession, Buchanan was still the "lame duck" president, because Lincoln was not sworn in until 1861. President Buchanan did not hold the seceders in the Union by **force** because he was surrounded by pro-southern advisors and he could find no authority in the Constitution to stop them with force. Another reason that force was not used was because at the time, the Union's army was needed to control the Indians of the West. The Northerners were not eager to use force against the Southerners because that would have ended the possibility of peaceful negotiations.

The Collapse of Compromise

The **Crittenden amendments** to the Constitution were designed to appease the South. The amendments prohibited slavery in territories north of 36° 30', but it permitted slavery in the territories south of this line. Future states (north and south of this line) would get to vote on the issue of slavery. President Lincoln rejected the amendments.

Farewell to the Union

The southern states seceded, fearing that the Republican Party would threaten their rights to own slaves.

Many southerners felt that their secession would be unopposed by the North. They assumed that the northern manufacturers and bankers, dependent upon southern cotton and markets, wouldn't dare cut off the South.